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C. S. [Signature]

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of : Box: PATENT APPLICATIONS  
Jean OLLIVIER : Examiner: Unassigned  
Serial No.: Unassigned : Group Art Unit: Unassigned  
Filed: September 21, 1999  
For: PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF LACTAMS FROM THE  
CORRESPONDING CYCLOALKANONE OXIMES

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE ABSTRACT**

Please delete the existing abstract and replace with the attached new Abstract of the Disclosure.

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 1, before line 1, delete "**DESCRIPTION**" and add the following,

--Cross-Reference to Related Application

This application is related to a concurrently filed and commonly owned application entitled "Process for the Preparation of Lauryllactam by Photonitrosation of Cyclododecane and Beckmann Rearrangement in the Presence of Methanesulphonic Acid", attorney docket ATOCM-157, by Ollivier et al., based on French application 98/11734 filed on September 21, 1998, respectively.

66T260-4600460